

REMARKS**STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

Claims 12, 14, 31, 33-34, 36-37, 39, 41-42, and 44-50 were pending. Claim 42 has been amended.

Applicants request that the present amendments be entered as the amendments place the claims in condition for allowance or in better form for consideration on appeal.

I. REJECTION UNDER THE SECOND PARAGRAPH OF 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claim 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for the recitation of psoriasis.

Applicants have amended claim 42 to delete “psoriasis” and insert therefor “asthma.” Applicants maintain that claim 42 presently complies with the definiteness requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

II. REJECTION UNDER FIRST PARAGRAPH OF 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner has rejected claims 12, 14, 33-34, 36-37, 39, 41-42, and 44-50 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as allegedly not being enabled for 1) a method of treating inflammation, such as sepsis, or osteoporosis, an autoimmune disease, or atherosclerosis, comprising administering to a mammal a therapeutically effective amount of an antibody to M-CSF, claimed in Claims 12 and 14, or 2) a method of treating inflammation, such as psoriasis or asthma, comprising administering to a mammal a therapeutically effective amount of an antibody to M-CSF, claimed in Claims 31, 37 and 42 or 3) a method of treating rheumatoid arthritis in a mammal comprising administering an antibody to M-CSF, claimed in Claims 34 and 50.

Applicants respectfully maintain that the claims, as amended, are sufficiently enabled under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph.

Applicants respectfully draw the Examiner’s attention to Campbell et al. (2000) *J. Leukocyte Biology* 68:144-150, which was submitted in an IDS in November of 2002. Campbell et al. (2000) disclose that the administration of an anti-M-CSF antibody in a

Collagen-Induced Arthritis (“CIA”) model, ameliorates its effects (see e.g., Abstract and page 146). The CIA model of arthritis is considered to be a model for human rheumatoid arthritis (see e.g., Williams et al. (1992) *Proc. Nat’l. Acad. U.S.A.* 9784-9788, page 9874, right hand column, first paragraph). Therefore, in a mouse model that is reasonably predictive as a model for human rheumatoid arthritis, administration of an antibody to M-CSF was able to alleviate the clinical severity of CIA. In addition, Campbell et al. (2000) disclose that arthritis “could not be established” in a CIA model using a M-CSF deficient mouse, the *op/op* mouse, which indicates that M-CSF is required to establish arthritis in a CIA model (see for example, page 145, first paragraph).

The Examiner cited a single line in Aoki et al. (US5470578, col. 1, lines 55-60) for the proposition that the cause of rheumatoid arthritis is unclear and that no reliable treatment for the disease has been established. Applicants respectfully disagree. Methotrexate, for example, has been used by physicians for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and psoriasis since the late 1980’s (see Supplemental IDS - Handschumacher (1990), *Drugs Used for Immunosuppression*, pages 1264-1276, in Goodman and Gilman’s *The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics*, 8th Edition, Gilman et. al. (eds.), Pergamon Press, New York). In addition, as pointed out in the Applicants’ previous response filed on June 12, 2003, the FDA approved anti-TNF α monoclonal antibody REMICADE® has been shown to ameliorate arthritis in a mouse CIA model (citing Williams et al.) and in humans (citing Feldman et al.).

In conclusion, Applicants maintain that the specification enables one of skill in the art to practice the claimed invention without undue experimentation. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the enablement rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

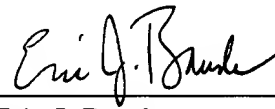
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 734-622-2095.

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Respectfully submitted,



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